

## ***Interactive comment on “Exploring the “overflow tap” theory: linking forest soil CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes and individual mycorrhizosphere components to photosynthesis” by A. Heinemeyer et al.***

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"The manuscript is very well documented with several useful tables and graphs. These are generally well formatted, but I found some figures too crowded and difficult to decipher. Particularly Fig.2 and Fig.5 have too many symbols on them and understanding them is difficult, especially on printed paper. I suggest reducing the classes of symbols plotted and enlarging their size (ie, by avoiding insets and double panels.)"

Response: We appreciate the positive feedback on our manuscript and the data presentation and agree that several figures appear as too crowded in the present format. We suggest that all Figs. need to be enlarged to the maximum page width (similar to

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the legend width) and feel that all symbols are then easily distinguishable, particularly when printed in colour where applicable. However, we are happy to remove the inset of Fig. 2 (now Fig. 3c), if the editorial also finds the Fig. too crowded when reproduced in an enlarged (maximized) format, although we feel this provides important information about the validity of the method, whilst not causing the remainder of the Fig. to be reduced. We also now combine Fig. 2 with Fig. 3 as suggested by Rev#2.

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 8, 3155, 2011.

**BGD**

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